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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shigeo TAKADA et al.

Serial No : Not Yet Assigned (National Stage of PCT/JP00/06704)

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For : ANTIOBESITY AGENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and the examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (a marked-up copy of the claim amendments is provided as an attachment to this Amendment):

5. (Amended-Clean Text) The agent according to claim 1, wherein the lactic acid

that is a repeating unit in the poly lactic acid consists substantially of L-lactic acid.